

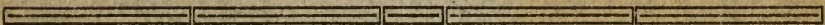
BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR THE

TWO FISCAL YEARS ENDING NOV. 30, 1914



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RALEIGH
E. M. UZZELL & CO., STATE PRINTERS AND BINDERS
1914



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BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR THE

TWO FISCAL YEARS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1914.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

RALEIGH, December 1, 1914.

To His Excellency, LOCKE CRAIG,
Governor.

SIR:—I have the honor to submit herewith to you a report concerning the Department of State for the two years ending November 30, 1914, and to request you to transmit the same to the General Assembly.

PUBLIC LANDS.

There have been issued from the office of the Secretary of State within the past two years 300 grants of public lands, on which account there has been paid into the State Treasury \$9,379.94. These grants were as follows for the year ending—

	Nov. 30, 1913.	Nov. 30, 1914.
Regular grants -----	170	110
Cherokee grants -----	4	1
Oyster grants -----	11	4
	<hr/> 185	<hr/> 115

The regular grants were in the following counties:

	1913.	1914.
Alleghany -----	6	--
Anson -----	1	--
Ashe -----	7	3
Avery -----	2	--
Beaufort -----	1	--
Bladen -----	--	2
Brunswick -----	4	2
Buncombe -----	1	1
Burke -----	2	3
Caldwell -----	3	1
Carteret -----	9	1
Chatham -----	--	1
Cherokee -----	2	1
Chowan -----	1	--

	1913.	1914.
Columbus -----	1	--
Cumberland -----	6	3
Currituck -----	--	2
Dare -----	11	1
Gaston -----	--	1
Graham -----	29	6
Harnett -----	--	1
Henderson -----	1	1
Jackson -----	4	2
Jones -----	--	1
Lee -----	1	1
Macon -----	26	29
McDowell -----	7	5
Mitchell -----	2	2
Montgomery -----	4	3
Moore -----	5	3
New Hanover -----	1	2
Onslow -----	1	5
Pamlico -----	--	2
Pasquotank -----	--	2
Pitt -----	1	--
Polk -----	--	1
Richmond -----	3	2
Rutherford -----	1	--
Sampson -----	--	3
Scotland -----	1	1
Stanly -----	--	2
Surry -----	2	--
Swain -----	5	5
Transylvania -----	--	1
Tyrrell -----	1	--
Union -----	2	1
Washington -----	2	--
Watauga -----	5	1
Wilkes -----	8	6
Yancey -----	1	--
Total -----	170	110

The following is a table of grants issued since 1882:

Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1882, 1,189; amounts paid Treasurer -----	\$ 10,912.87
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1884, 1,329; amounts paid Treasurer -----	13,186.73
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1886, 990; amounts paid Treasurer -----	5,975.69
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1888, 893; amounts paid Treasurer -----	9,493.49
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1890, 1,453; amounts paid Treasurer -----	15,570.43
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1892, 1,358; amounts paid Treasurer -----	16,831.11
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1894, 703; amounts paid Treasurer -----	5,200.73

Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1896, 547;	
amounts paid Treasurer -----	\$ 9,234.46
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1898, 599;	
amounts paid Treasurer -----	6,337.13
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1900, 665;	
amounts paid Treasurer -----	6,384.69
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1902, 732;	
amounts paid Treasurer -----	6,911.88
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1904, 789;	
amounts paid Treasurer -----	11,230.60
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1906, 488;	
amounts paid Treasurer -----	16,511.47
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1908, 529;	
amounts paid Treasurer -----	16,025.49
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1910, 317;	
amounts paid Treasurer -----	9,695.85
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1912, 255;	
amounts paid Treasurer -----	13,349.25
Number grants issued two years ending December 1, 1914, 300;	
amounts paid Treasurer -----	9,379.94

GRANTS INDEXED.

The General Assembly of 1913 continued the appropriation of \$1,500 a year for establishing a card-index system for grants, and to arrange and change the method of filing warrants, plats, and surveys in the office of the Secretary of State. As I said in my last report, this work has been slow, tedious, and disappointing in results; but the necessity of it, and the convenience of rearrangement, indexing, etc., is more fully realized as the work nears completion. When finished its value will be very great.

The report of 1912 shows the grant work to have been partially completed through book 145, date 1838; since then that section of the work has been finished and the work carried on to book 175, date 1885, except about 30,000 index cards, which are now being written. Since the last report about 40,000 envelopes have been written; 56,000 warrants, plats, and surveys have been classified, arranged, and jacketed; 57,000 index cards with full description have been prepared and placed in the cases.

The expenditure for clerical help on this work for the years 1913 and 1914 was as follows:

Mrs. E. H. Winfree -----	\$ 283.00
Miss Iola Bledsoe -----	242.00
A. J. Feild -----	25.00
V. W. Kimball -----	177.00
Arthur Brimley -----	7.00
Miss A. C. Bledsoe -----	504.00
J. J. Harrington -----	988.83
Mrs. M. B. Syme -----	341.00
Miss A. D. Bagwell -----	167.00

\$2,734.83

SUPREME COURT REPORTS.

Within the past two years fifteen volumes of the Supreme Court Reports have been annotated and reprinted. The annotating has been done by Chief Justice Walter Clark.

The sale of Reports for the last two fiscal years has been:

For year ending November 30, 1913-----	\$8,910.95
For year ending November 30, 1914-----	8,937.84

The sales of Reports for the past few years have been as follows:

Two years ending December 1, 1882-----	\$ 3,352.40
Two years ending December 1, 1884-----	4,626.90
Two years ending December 1, 1886-----	3,253.00
Two years ending December 1, 1888-----	3,762.49
Two years ending December 1, 1890-----	4,002.02
Two years ending December 1, 1892-----	2,618.01
Two years ending December 1, 1894-----	621.12
Two years ending December 1, 1896-----	6,026.89
Two years ending December 1, 1898-----	5,759.55
Two years ending December 1, 1900-----	7,692.59
Two years ending December 1, 1902-----	7,026.89
Two years ending December 1, 1904-----	9,842.25
Two years ending December 1, 1906-----	15,034.54
Two years ending December 1, 1908-----	14,661.74
Two years ending December 1, 1910-----	17,482.00
Two years ending December 1, 1912-----	17,031.55
Two years ending December 1, 1914-----	17,848.79

To the Department of State was assigned a large part of the basement of the new Library and Supreme Court Building, which space has been filled with volumes of Supreme Court Reports. All the room in this basement is very greatly needed by the State Library.

There are still about 45,000 volumes of Supreme Court Reports, Laws, and other books belonging to the State now in the care of the Secretary of State which are in a wareroom rented from Uzzell & Co. by the State. The owners of this warehouse, which has been used by the State for a number of years, now need it for other purposes, and it has been found impossible so far to secure a proper place elsewhere for the storage of these books. The Department of State needs at least 12,000 feet of floor space to properly care for the property of the State in the custody of that Department. The Adjutant General and other departments are renting warehouses and rooms in unsuitable and inconvenient places in the city.

I would urge the purchase of a spacious lot and the erection of a modern, commodious warehouse for the safe keeping of these books and other State property. This is a necessity and would also be an economy.

CORPORATIONS.

There have been 2,119 certificates for domestic corporations filed in the office of the Secretary of State for the past two years, on which \$46,-657.03 as organization, amendment, and dissolution taxes have been paid.

The dissolutions have been as follows:

December 1, 1912, to November 30, 1913.....	195
December 1, 1913, to November 30, 1914.....	291

The following is a table of corporation certificates filed since 1893:

For the year ending November 30, 1893.....	21
For the year ending November 30, 1894.....	115
For the year ending November 30, 1895.....	133
For the year ending November 30, 1896.....	151
For the year ending November 30, 1897.....	147
For the year ending November 30, 1898.....	156
For the year ending November 30, 1899.....	207
For the year ending November 30, 1900.....	306
For the year ending November 30, 1901.....	327
For the year ending November 30, 1902.....	395
For the year ending November 30, 1903.....	554
For the year ending November 30, 1904.....	540
For the year ending November 30, 1905.....	697
For the year ending November 30, 1906.....	821
For the year ending November 30, 1907.....	839
For the year ending November 30, 1908.....	763
For the year ending November 30, 1909.....	1,050
For the year ending November 30, 1910.....	1,058
For the year ending November 30, 1911.....	985
For the year ending November 30, 1912.....	1,093
For the year ending November 30, 1913.....	1,032
For the year ending November 30, 1914.....	1,087

TRADE-MARKS.

For the two years ending November 30, 1914, 33 trade-marks have been registered.

For year ending November 30, 1913.....	12
For year ending November 30, 1914.....	21
	—
	33

BANKS.

Seventy-two banks have filed certificates in this office within the last two years.

For year ending November 30, 1913.....	40
For year ending November 30, 1914.....	32
	—
	72

RAILROADS.

The following railroads have filed certificates in this office since my last report:

December 1, 1912, to November 30, 1913.

Carolina Railroad Company.
 Hiawassee Valley Railway Company (amendment).
 Pembroke, Red Springs and Northern Railroad Company.
 Richland Railroad Company.
 Warrenton and Norlina Railway Company.
 Watauga Railway Company (amendment).

December 1, 1913, to November 30, 1914.

Atlantic and Carolina Railway Company.
 Carolina, Atlantic and Western Railway
 (from North and South Carolina Railway Company).
 Carolina, Atlantic and Western Railway Company (merger).
 Gulf and Bay Railway Company.
 Sea Beach Railway Company.
 Shelby Northern Railway Company.
 Wilmington and Fort Fisher Railroad and Power Company.

AUTOMOBILES.

Number of automobiles registered prior to December 1, 1910	2,018
Number registered from December 1, 1910, to November 30, 1911	1,686
Number registered from December 1, 1911, to November 30, 1912	2,402

The amounts collected from automobiles for registration and renewals of licenses were:

Year ending November 30, 1911	\$11,181.00
Year ending November 30, 1912	16,462.00
Year ending November 30, 1913	65,901.00
Year ending November 30, 1914	98,046.32

NOTE.—The automobile registration year ends on June 30th of each year. The amount of fees collected for the fiscal year ending November 30th includes, therefore, a part of the registration fees for two years.

Under the automobile law enacted in 1913, 11,389 automobiles were registered for the year ending June 30, 1914. This law requires an annual registration. For the year ending June 30, 1915, there have been registered from July 1 to November 30, 14,677 automobiles, an increase of over 3,000 machines for the five months.

The registration fees collected for the year ending June 30, 1914, amounted to \$67,862.07. Of this amount, 80 per cent of the amount collected from each county was refunded to that county by the State Treasurer for the road fund, in compliance with the provisions of the

law. The amount collected for the year ending June 30, 1915, for the five months period beginning July 1st and ending November 30th, was \$89,580.19. Eighty per cent of this amount, together with 80 per cent of the amount collected for the balance of the year ending June 30, 1915, will be refunded to the counties as soon as possible after July 1, 1915.

In addition to the registration of automobiles, 1,146 motorcycles were registered for the year ending June 30, 1914, and 1,300 have been registered for the year ending June 30, 1915, from July 1, 1914, to November 30, 1914. For the year ending June 30, 1914, 160 demonstrating licenses were issued. For the year ending June 30, 1915, from July 1 to November 30, 1914, 226 demonstrating licenses have been issued.

The registration fees under the new law are \$5, \$7.50, and \$10 annually for automobiles; \$2 for motorcycles, and \$10 for demonstrating licenses. The transfer fee is \$2. From March 1st to June 30th of each year only one-half the regular registration fee is charged.

Prior to the passage of the act of 1913, display numbers were not furnished by the State, but were prepared by the owner of the machine registered and placed on such machine after he had secured his license. It was, therefore, impossible for an officer to tell whether or not a license had been renewed except by personal inspection. Under the new law, the display numbers are furnished by the State, and the colors are changed each year, so that an officer is able to tell at a glance whether or not a machine is properly registered for the current year.

The officers of the State generally have shown their willingness to enforce the law, and hundreds of inquiries are annually received and answered by the office as to ownership of machines, etc. Copies of the law are furnished free to any person desiring them, and lists of registered owners are furnished to the city and county authorities from time to time of the registrations from their counties, for their convenience in the enforcement of the law.

Indexes are carefully kept in the office, both numerically and alphabetically of the registered owners of all automobiles, and any information regarding registrations is available at all times.

The clerical expense incident to the automobile work for the past two years has been as follows:

	1913.
J. E. Sawyer	\$1,300.00
Mrs. M. B. Syme	115.00
W. P. Batchelor	12.50
B. Little	13.75
V. W. Kimball	17.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,458.25

	1914,
J. E. Sawyer	\$1,500.00
Miss A. C. Bledsoe.....	82.50
Mrs. M. B. Syme.....	80.00
Mrs. W. S. Wilson.....	25.00
V. W. Kimball	57.50
Miss A. D. Bagwell.....	55.00
Miss Iola Bledsoe.....	50.00
Miss Frances Lacy.....	21.25
A. J. Feild.....	30.00
E. R. Carroll.....	24.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,925.25

ENROLLMENT OF BILLS.

Some method should be adopted to avoid the rush of work done at the close of the session, which, to insure accuracy, requires an unusual amount of proof-reading. In 1905 more than half the bills passed by the General Assembly were sent to the Enrolling Office in the last ten days of the session. In 1907 the congestion at the close was more marked than in 1905. At that session the General Assembly passed 1,535 acts; 1,245, or over 80 per cent, of these were ratified during the last twenty days of the session; 901, or 58 per cent, of them in the last ten days, and 237 on the last day. In 1909 more than 66 per cent of the laws of the session were enrolled and ratified in the last ten days of the session. In 1911 over 77 per cent were ratified in the last ten days of the session. In 1913, 1,154 acts, or 76 per cent of the laws, were passed in the last ten days of the session. This included many of the longest and most important bills before the General Assembly, causing an undue rush, and much all-night work in the Enrolling Department, and entailed much extra cost in endeavoring to secure accuracy with extra proof-readers and other help. In such a confused rush it is almost impossible to have it properly done. As I have said before, "The Committee on Enrolled Bills and members cannot devote time to examining such a congested mass of bills without neglecting their duties on the floor of the General Assembly, and they find it a physical impossibility to read over these laws. The hurry and congestion cause much crude legislation and many inaccuracies." I am still of the opinion that if the Engrossing Departments of the Senate and House and the Enrolling Department were consolidated, it would be in the interest of accuracy and economy. The chief officer of the department could be appointed by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House, and he should be free to select his assistants for their skill and efficiency. In the closing rush important bills sometimes fail to get the proper readings as required by the Constitution, and cause loss and annoyance, and frequently mentioned public measures are lost for want of time to consider them. Especially is this true where no one feels it a particular duty to press them.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARIAN.

As I have written in several former reports, one of the most necessary officers in North Carolina is a Legislative Reference Librarian, or some one charged with the duties performed by such an officer as has been found necessary in most of the States of the Union. This office, as has been aptly said, would be "a clearing house for information upon public affairs." Not only do most of the States have such an officer, but many of the cities, larger libraries, and universities have such an institution, and the larger corporations frequently have such a bureau.

It would be the duty of that department to give condensed, comprehensive, impartial, accurate information on any subject on short notice. To the busy legislator it would have ready the accumulated, classified experiment and experience of all other States and countries upon every question of legislation that would be likely to arise. The want of time does not permit the most careful and scrupulous legislator to gather for himself from authentic sources full information of digested data upon the many bills he has to consider.

"A Legislative Reference Librarian would be a most useful and economical officer to the State. It could be made his duty to collect, tabulate, and annotate information for the use of members and committees of the General Assembly upon all questions of legislation coming before that body. He should make references and analytical comparisons of legislation upon similar questions in other States, and have at hand the laws of other States, papers, magazine articles, and discussions of the question both pro and con. Such indexing, tabulation, and general information would be invaluable to the busy legislator. It could be made this officer's duty to edit all laws for the State Printer, annotating the laws as passed and keeping the Revisal of 1905 revised to date. He should also assist in the preparation of bills for current legislation, thereby avoiding much duplication and much unnecessary printing."

As I have written before: The Constitution could be so amended that three-fourths of our legislation could be dispensed with and many of those matters consuming the time of the General Assembly attended to under general laws by the various departments, Superior Courts, county commissioners, etc. Many of the laws passed could now be digested, consolidated, or combined so as to save much time and many thousands of dollars in cost of printing.

In 1909 there were passed 174 strictly public laws, making 262 pages. The public and private laws together required 2,391 closely printed pages. In 1911 there were 215 laws passed classed as public, making 317 pages, and in that year the public, public-local, and private laws required 2,664 closely printed pages. In 1913 there were 203 acts and 60 resolutions classed as public laws, making 478 pages printed in the Public Laws; and 1,322 acts, making 3,145 pages, printed in the Public-Local and Private Laws.

It will surprise some of the legislators themselves to note the number of laws that could so easily have been systematized and consolidated. To say nothing of many laws referring to cotton weighers, clerks of the court, arrears of taxes, special taxes, sawdust in streams, local dog laws, etc., and a few duplicate laws, or the same act passed twice, the following table of laws, many of which could have been consolidated, will be illuminating:

	1909.	1911.	1913.	1913 (Extra Session).
County and township bonds-----	47	63	97	31
Bonds -----	45	85	119	34
County commissioners -----	26	42	33	5
Court stenographers -----	9	10	12	2
Chicken laws -----	4	8	4	1
Drainage law -----	11	20	20	8
Game and fish laws-----	121	107	89	21
Primaries -----	8	11	16	3
Local courts -----	14	27	40	22
Road laws -----	94	101	158	37
Stock laws -----	11	20	18	17
Jurors -----	22	6	16	4
Justices of the peace-----	28	12	19	32
Cities and towns (including bonds)-----	222	262	325	96
Corporations -----	26	20	20	1
Graded schools, schools and school districts.---	120	107	127	38
Railroads -----	27	34	24	7

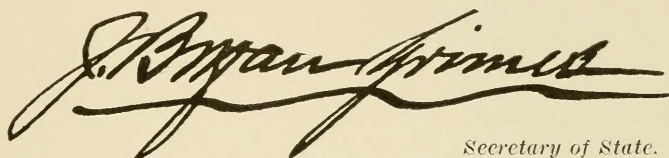
PAYMENTS TO TREASURER.

	1913.	1914.
Automobiles -----	\$65,901.00	\$98,046.32
Corporations (organization tax)-----	24,081.80	22,575.23
Corporation statements -----	952.00	75.00
Corporations (foreign) -----	1,942.50	2,582.50
Corporations (seals) -----	902.70	489.00
Corporations (fees) -----	3,181.11	3,208.90
Fees -----	1,653.55	1,143.55
Seals -----	902.70	489.00
Supreme Court Reports-----	8,910.95	8,937.84
Laws and Journals-----	683.84	602.27
Miscellaneous -----	211.65	196.21
Trade-marks -----	46.40	81.00
Land grant fees-----	127.30	80.70
Postage -----	20.38	13.58
Land grants -----	4,909.47	4,470.47
	<hr/> \$114,427.35	<hr/> \$142,991.57

NOTE.—The amounts of money received by this Department (except for entries of vacant lands) are paid to the Treasurer as of the first of the month following the month in which they are collected, and so appear in his accounts. For instance, money received by the Secretary of State for November, and entered in the November accounts of this office, appears in the December accounts of the Treasurer, and so for the other months of the year.

With the large receipts now being taken in by the Department of State, another system from that now practiced in the handling of these funds should be adopted. Another clerk is necessary to properly take care of the increasing work of this Department.

In conclusion, I desire to acknowledge the efficient assistance of Messrs. W. S. Wilson, George W. Norwood, Joseph E. Sawyer, Miss Minnie Bagwell, and Miss Virginia D. Taylor in the discharge of the duties of this office.

A large, elegant handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "J. Bryan Grimes". The signature features a prominent, sweeping underline that extends across the width of the text.

Secretary of State.

